

The parents of Hanoch 'Steve' Deneman, Henk and Nel Deneman, outside their hotel in Acre yesterday. (C. Nutkiewicz)

Soldier's murder seen as terror act

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Reporter

ACRE. — Police investigating the murder of IDF soldier Hanoch "Steve" Deneman are almost certain that he was a victim of terrorists.

Nevertheless, they have not ruled out other motives for the killing. Deneman's body was found in cotton fields near the fish ponds of Kibbutz Kfar Masaryk on Sunday afternoon.

A post mortem revealed that he had died as a result of blows to the head, probably from an axe. There were other signs of violence on the body, indicating that Deneman had put up a struggle against

his attacker or attackers.

From the state of the body, it is thought that Deneman was killed on September 20, the day he left his home to return to his army base in the Golan Heights, where he served in the Engineering Corps.

According to reports, he was dressed in his uniform, although there was no sign of his weapon.

Police have set up a squad under Acre police commander Moshe Asaf to investigate the murder. Officers with experience in dealing with similar cases have been mobilized. A news blackout has been imposed, apparently because publicity might hamper the investigation.

Significant advance seen in Chinese-Israeli relations

Peres in historic talks with China's FM

By MENACHEM SHALEV
in Jerusalem
and **WALTER RUBY**
in New York

Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian told Foreign Minister Shimon Peres yesterday that China will not establish diplomatic ties with Israel as long as Israel holds on to the occupied territories and the Palestinian problem remains unresolved.

But Wu said that China would accept any formula for an international peace conference worked out between "the Arabs, Israel and the Secretary General of the United Nations." Wu used the term "the Arabs" and did not single out any specific party. He also reiterated his country's position that the PLO should represent the Palestinians at the conference.

The historic first meeting between the Israeli and Chinese foreign ministers took place at the Chinese UN delegation in New York and included lively conversation about the great philosophers of Chinese

history. Peres and Wu met for just under two hours, nearly twice as long as had originally been scheduled.

The two agreed that China and Israel would maintain regular contacts through the two countries' ambassadors to the UN — and Peres announced this publicly after the meeting.

The atmosphere was described as "warm" by Foreign Ministry spokesman Ehud Gol, who participated in the meeting along with UN Ambassador Binyamin Netanyahu, and Peres' advisers Nimrod Novik and Uri Savir.

The Chinese side was also represented by four officials in addition to Wu.

The Chinese foreign minister listened to Peres's presentation in English but answered in Chinese through an interpreter.

Peres interspersed his remarks with numerous quotations from Chinese revolutionary leaders Mao Tse-tung and Deng Xiaoping, and expressed his profound admiration for the "pioneering spirit" of the Chinese people.

After the meeting, Peres observed that "even a thousand mile march starts with one small step, and this was the small step."

In an official statement, a Chinese spokesman said the Chinese foreign minister had "reaffirmed China's support for the convening of the international conference on the Middle East under the auspices of the United Nations, and pointed out that the Palestine Liberation Organization is entitled to participate in the conference on an equal footing with the other parties."

Peres met earlier in the day with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, who is to arrive in Israel on the night of Saturday October 17.

Following the meeting, American sources said that the U.S. now fully supported Peres's contention that the international conference was the best avenue to direct negotiations. During his visit here the secretary

of state will present Israel with "new ideas" which might persuade the government to agree to the convening of such an international conference, the sources said.

The sources said that while Shultz would not push the international conference idea "forcefully" during his visit, the Reagan administration does hope that the Israeli public will understand from Shultz's words that he fully supports Peres's efforts to bring about an international conference.

In brief comments to Israeli reporters after his meeting with Shultz, Peres said that Shultz would be going to Israel "to ask questions and to listen to questions." Asked if Shultz had clearly expressed support for the international conference, Peres responded cryptically, "It's more complicated than that."

Peres and Shultz disagreed sharply on the issue of proposed U.S. arms sales to Saudi Arabia. Shultz reportedly told Peres that "the president will not appreciate a public

confrontation on this matter." Peres said he told Shultz: "Don't expect Israel to change her fundamental opposition to the sale of arms to countries in a state of war with Israel."

Peres said he asked Shultz to press the Soviets on the subject of Soviet Jewish emigration and on direct flights of Soviet Jews to Israel. According to Israeli sources, Shultz "accepted" the Israeli position on the desirability of direct flights.

Peres and Shultz also discussed the ramifications of the cancellation of the Lavi project. Shultz was said to have assured Peres that the U.S. will provide new contracts to Israel Aircraft Industries to help cut down the number of layoffs in the firm. Shultz also emphasized that Israel and the U.S. have agreed to work together on building the third prototype of the Lavi and on continuing research and development on its avionics systems.

The problem of the Israeli sol- (Continued on Back Page)

Grieved Christian parents express disbelief at tragedy

By DAVID RUDGE
and **JOSHUA BRILLIANT**
Jerusalem Post Reporters

ACRE. — The grief-stricken parents of murdered IDF soldier Hanoch Deneman, who converted to Judaism, said yesterday they would take their son's body to Holland for burial. His sister said the family had not been told he was missing, and she blamed Israel for his death.

The IDF plans to help arrange the transfer of Deneman's remains to Holland, and is not insisting that he be given a Jewish burial, or be interred in Israel. However, the IDF chaplaincy is understood to believe that Deneman's family will respect his wishes and give him a Jewish funeral. The IDF is to cover all the burial costs and has assigned a Dutch-speaking officer to accompany the family while they are in Israel.

Deneman, who converted in Israel, studied in a yeshiva and lived in an Orthodox kibbutz, Shluhot, before joining the IDF in February

and being sent to an Engineering Corps unit in the north.

His parents, Henk and Nel Deneman, wandered across the lobby of the Palm Beach Hotel here yesterday, their tear-filled eyes expressing disbelief at the tragedy that had befallen them.

They were informed of their son's death on Tuesday and flew immediately to Israel. They arrived in Acre yesterday afternoon and went to their son's apartment to collect his personal belongings.

Their daughter, Rosa, said her parents were still numb with shock. She said the family had received a telephone call from the Israeli Embassy, but her father, who had no idea that anything was amiss, asked if he could come next week. Only when he was told that the matter was urgent did the family realize that a tragedy had occurred, Rosa said.

She said the family still did not have any details of his death. "We haven't yet met with any representatives of the police. We were told that on the day (of Hanoch's death) he had been feeling ill and was supposed to have returned to the army."

"We don't have any information about what happened after that," she said.

Rosa recalled the last time her parents had seen Hanoch, during a recent holiday in Israel.

"They came back from the holiday about September 10. At that time my brother said he was busy trying to arrange some free days for a holiday and take some rest," she said.

"We thought everything was normal and he was going about his daily life," she said.

Rosa said that Hanoch, one of eight children, had originally come to Israel to work.

"He liked the people, formed (Continued on Page 4)

Big banks agree to cut-back in credit

By PINHAS LANDAU
Post Finance Reporter

The Bank of Israel yesterday reached an informal understanding with the two main banks, Hapoalim and Leumi, under which these two commercial banks would cut back on marketing credit and loans for the next four weeks.

This agreement formed the background for the move by the Treasury and central bank to end the upward pressure on interest rates by pumping money into the banking system.

In the wake of the intervention by the authorities, Bank Hapoalim decided not to raise its interest rates for borrowers and Leumi cancelled the increase it had scheduled to take effect next week.

Deposit rates also began to come down yesterday, with the top rate for very large sums, or "jumbo" deposits, declining from over 22 percent on Tuesday to around 20.5 percent yesterday. Bankers contacted

by The Jerusalem Post last night said they expected this trend to continue.

The behind-the-scenes intervention of the central bank was triggered by Leumi's announcement on Monday that the month-long rise in deposit rates had forced it to raise its prime and other borrowing rates.

The Bank of Israel has maintained for several weeks that the shortage of shekels in the banking system was of the banks' own making. The intense marketing campaigns that the commercial banks have recently mounted for loans of every sort and size has resulted in an over-rapid expansion of credit in the economy, central bank officials have claimed.

In reply, the commercial banks pointed to the government's soaking up of funds from the money markets, to a far greater extent than had been planned or foreseen. This, they said, had caused a shortage of funds that sparked the rise in interest rates.

(Continued on Page 7)

Dream of a drug bust nabs 31 suspects in West Bank raids

By BERNARD JOSEPHS

Police last night celebrated what officers described as the biggest blow against narcotics racketeers for years after 31 suspected drug dealers were arrested in a series of lightning swoops in the West Bank.

The carefully synchronized raids took place at 1 a.m. yesterday when more than 100 police, Border Police and troops raided the homes of suspects in Bethlehem, Ramallah and Hebron.

Most of those arrested were in bed when the police burst in on them. The only attempt at resistance came when the brother of one suspect pulled a knife on a Border Policeman. But he was swiftly overpowered.

"It was the biggest operation of its kind for years and it worked like a dream," said a police spokesman. The 31 arrested were still being held last night and police said all of them were "known drugs dealers."

The operation came after four months of intense planning and high-risk undercover work by two police agents who managed to penetrate a network of narcotics traders operating in the West Bank and Israel. The agents are believed to have been authorized to buy narcotics from the dealers in order to protect their cover.

Only a small amount of heroin was found by police during the raids. But a source said this was not surprising. "The aim was to catch those who are doing the selling rather than find caches of drugs. We are delighted at the way this very sophisticated operation went," he said.

Another major success in the battle against the drugs menace was reported by police yesterday when they revealed that heroin worth about NIS 900,000 was discovered and three dealers were arrested recently when drugs squad officers raided a house in Jerusalem's Christian Quarter.

This operation, too, said police sources, resulted from careful intelligence work. The three suspects, who apparently smuggled the narcotics across the Jordan, were shadowed for weeks by an undercover team. They are expected to be formally charged early next week.

Despite the two successes a police source last night stressed that the force has so far only "scratched the surface" of the nation's drugs racket, which is said to have a turnover exceeding \$1 billion a year. "We pledged to put the drugs problem at the top of our list of priorities, and that is what we have done. One successful operation like this certainly does not mean we will be relaxing," he said.

Gaddafi gets pilots from Damascus

Post Middle East Staff

Syria has sent 40 fighter pilots to Libya to assist it in its war against Chad, Egypt's official news agency reported yesterday.

The agency quoted senior Arab diplomatic sources as saying that Syrian President Hafez Assad had responded to an urgent request from Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi, whose forces have recently been repulsed in fighting in northern Chad, near the Libyan border.

Lebanese Druze warlord Walid Jumblatt recently sent members of his militia to assist Libyan forces fighting in Chad, in return for what he said was Libyan assistance to his community.

Syria and Libya have warned that they will boycott a planned Arab summit, the first in five years, if it will not discuss the Arab-Israeli conflict, Arab diplomatic sources said.

Jordan's King Hussein flew yesterday to Kuwait and Bahrain to discuss a formula for a summit agenda, which will make it possible for Syria to participate in the conference, expected to be held in Jordan. The main focus of discussions is expected to be the Iran-Iraq war.



Heart transplant patient Ovadia Matzri (left) with Maton Goldstein, a candidate for the same operation as soon as a donor is found. See story—page 2 (P. Tikiner/Media)

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U.S. Senate votes to ban Iran imports

Gulf tankers escorted through treacherous waters

DUBAI (Reuters). — U.S. warships escorted a reflagged Kuwaiti tanker and a separate convoy of fleet supply vessels through the Gulf yesterday, hours after a gunboat attack on a Greek-flag tanker.

U.S. Defence Department spokesman Major Larry Icenogle told Reuters the operation to protect two U.S.-owned cargo vessels belonging to military sealift command was routine. He would not say where they were bound.

Reporters in a helicopter spotted a cluster of about 15 warships and other vessels, led by minesweeping helicopters, after they passed north through the Strait of Hormuz into the Gulf.

A second convoy supporting the reflagged Kuwaiti tanker Gas Prince was sighted heading for waters off Dubai and was expected to exit through the Hormuz Strait later yesterday, shipping sources said. Icenogle named the cargo vessels as the Gus Dainell and the Patriot,

escorted by the frigates Ford, Thach and Rentz and the amphibious support ship Raleigh.

U.S. Navy captains could be heard on a radio shipping channel warning other vessels to stay clear of the convoy.

But American NBC news reporters said the flotilla included some ships which seemed to be tagging along. Commercial captains frequently trail U.S. convoys in the Gulf, in the hope of gaining protection.

A call for help from U.S. warships was the instinctive action of the captain of the 38,000-ton Greek tanker Koriana when it was attacked by a gunboat early yesterday.

The captain said later on ship-to-shore radio that the gunboat, apparently manned by Iranian revolutionary guards, had raked the tanker with rocket-propelled grenades and machinegun fire.

"There was no serious damage.

We have a few small holes in our accommodation," he added. The ship, hit 60 miles off Abu Dhabi, was sailing unaided to Das Island near the Emirate.

Teheran's news agency Irna quoted Iranian parliamentary speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani as saying that the U.S. was close to a confrontation with Iran.

He said Iran would use its full potential in any such confrontation and give "a suitable response for minor mischievous acts" in the Gulf.

British minesweepers are now combing a danger zone in a busy shipping channel, 20 miles off Dubai, where the U.S. Navy spotted suspicious objects earlier this week. Diplomats said they had not yet found any mines.

Iran has staged hit-and-run attacks on Gulf shipping from fast launches and is also suspected of laying mines in retaliation for intensive Iraqi air raids against its tankers.

Because Iraq does not export its oil through the Gulf, Iran opted to hit back at Baghdad's Gulf Arab allies, diplomats said. The implicit threat was that nobody would be able to ship oil through the Gulf if Iran's oil lifeline was cut.

The U.S. Senate on Tuesday approved an embargo on imports of crude and oil products from Iran, following reports that American imports of Iranian products were surging and were worth \$700m. between May and July.

This amendment to the 1988 defence bill, proposed by Republican Senator Robert Dole, needs approval by the House of Representatives and President Reagan to become law.

The U.S. has imported \$500 to \$600m. worth of products annually from Iran in recent years.

The vote attached the amendment to a pending bill authorizing the Pentagon budget for the fiscal

year which begins today.

The proposal said "the actions of Iran in continuing mine-laying activities, launching Silkworm missiles against Kuwait and refusing to accept the UN-proposed ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war are totally unwarranted and increase tension and the danger of a widening war in the Persian Gulf."

"There's no sense in letting our oil purchases finance Iran's war," said Dole.

He was referring to recent reports that Iran has become the second-largest supplier of crude oil to the U.S. behind Nigeria.

Dole's amendment noted that "the provision of this hard currency to Iran increases its ability to procure mines, Silkworm missiles and other armaments from foreign sources, thereby increasing its ability to sustain and escalate its war with Iraq and other irresponsible actions, such as mine-laying."



Cistercian monks in Portlengone, Northern Ireland load an anaerobic digester, which takes in cattle and poultry manure from their farm and produces methane gas, used to heat their abbey (Reuters)

Talks on Fiji crisis

SUVA (AFP). — Fijian governor-general Ratu Sir Penaia Gani-lau and coup leader Colonel Sitiveni Rabuka met here yesterday to discuss the constitutional crisis in this former British colony. A Government House spokesman gave no details, saying only that discussions would continue.

Rabuka on Tuesday declared Fiji a republic, with himself replacing the governor-general as head of government. In London, the Foreign Office warmly welcomed news that Colonel Rabuka had held discussions with the governor-general.

"We warmly welcome this development and hope that it will carry the dialogue forward," a spokesman said. Former premier Timoci Bavadra, toppled by Rabuka in a May 14 coup, was released yesterday from Naboro prison, where he had been held since the colonel staged a second coup Friday, members of his family said.

(Radio New Zealand said yesterday that Dr. Bavadra and former premier Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara were also at the talks and that a new initiative had been agreed on. New Zealand Foreign Minister Russell Marshall said his high commissioner in Suva had met the governor-general during the day and reported back to Wellington on the talks and their outcome. Marshall gave no details, but said the "excellent news" that the governor-general "has brought together the group and persuaded them to work together to bring Fiji back from the brink is just the sort of development we have been hoping for."

"I am delighted that an initial agreement has been reached," he said without elaborating, adding that the "three principals will meet together on Monday with the governor-general, after a period of reflection and consultation, to hammer out an agreement."

(Marshall said: "There is still a way to go before Fiji can return to normality, but a start has been made.")

Rabuka said in a statement on Radio Fiji that all members of the military had pledged their allegiance to him. But a military source told Agence France-Presse that two officers of the Royal Fiji Military Forces, Major Pio Wong and Major R. Savau, were under guard because they opposed declaring Fiji a republic.

Bush reassures Kohl on firmness of U.S. commitment to defend Europe

BONN (Reuters). — U.S. Vice President George Bush told West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl yesterday that superpower arms accords would not lessen America's resolve to defend Europe, and pledged to maintain close contact with Bonn as negotiations unfold.

The West German leader, in an hour-long meeting with Bush, said that his efforts to improve ties with Communist East Germany would never undermine Bonn's place in the Western alliance. Efforts to improve relations between the two Germanys would not affect Bonn's commitment to NATO, Kohl stated.

Bush told reporters after the meeting that Washington would maintain its commitment to the defence of Western Europe as the U.S. moved toward a treaty with the Soviet Union banning intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF).

"There is no danger in my view

that the United States will use any arms control agreement or any agreement whatsoever to decouple — to move away — from our commitment to NATO," said Bush, who had handed Kohl a letter from President Reagan at the start of their talks.

West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, on whose urging Kohl has pledged to scrap Bonn's Pershing-1a nuclear missiles in the event of an arms pact, told Bush earlier of his strong interest in talks on the short-range weapons.

Kohl said the talks also had touched on Bush's four-day stay in Poland — the highest-level U.S. visit to that country in 10 years — and East German leader Erich Honecker's landmark first visit to West Germany earlier this month. Kohl said that West Germany was in favour of increased emphasis on negotiations on strategic long-range nuclear weapons, conventional forces,

chemical weapons and nuclear arms with a range below 500 km (300 miles). "...and when I mention these, I do not mean to give them any particular order of importance, but I put one beside the other," he stated.

Nato leaders, however, are divided on negotiating with the Soviet Union on short-range nuclear missiles following an INF accord banning missiles with ranges from 500-5,000 km.

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has said that eliminating such weapons could leave Western Europe at the mercy of superior Soviet conventional forces.

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze are expected to seal an INF accord at a meeting in Moscow next month and set a date for a summit meeting between Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev.

Gorbachev flies off to visit northern port

MOSCOW. — Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev yesterday flew to the Arctic Circle fishing and naval port of Murmansk, the northernmost point of the general secretary's travels so far.

In announcing the trip, the official news agency Tass did not mention how long Gorbachev would stay or the purpose of the trip. But since becoming general secretary in March 1985, Gorbachev has travelled extensively throughout the Soviet Union to discuss regional problems and his plans for economic and social change.

His departure came just one day after his first public appearance in seven weeks.

The 56-year-old Communist Party chief's absence from the public eye had caused rumour and concern about his health and that of his wife, Raisa. But he appeared tanned and smiling Tuesday at a meeting with a group of French politicians and said later in comments distributed by Tass that he had been on vacation.

Murmansk played a key role in both World Wars because it was the only northwestern warm-water port through which the Soviet Union could receive supplies from its allies. Although Leningrad is a warm-water port, it is accessible only through the Baltic Sea, which was cut off by the Germans.

Murmansk harbor, does not freeze due to climatic conditions peculiar to that area and it is easily accessible from the Barents Sea.

According to an opinion poll released in Washington yesterday, Gorbachev has made a better impression with the American people than most of the Democratic presidential candidates.

Gorbachev was regarded favourably by 40 per cent of those surveyed by the Gallup Organization in a poll of 1,903 Americans between September 1 and September 13.

The poll was part of a study of voter attitudes commissioned by the Times Mirror media group. Black rights leader Jesse Jackson,

who got a favourable rating from 48 per cent of those polled, was the only one of six Democratic presidential contenders to outpoll the Soviet leader.

Among the other Democratic candidates, Senator Paul Simon was rated favourably by 39 per cent. Massachusetts governor Michael Dukakis and Congressman Richard Gephardt both scored 37 per cent.

Gallup President Andrew Kohut said the figures were somewhat skewed by the fact that a majority of Americans are still unfamiliar with most of the Democratic contenders and were unable to rate them either favourably or unfavourably.

He also attributed Gorbachev's good ratings to the publicity surrounding his glasnost policy of liberalization. In a larger survey conducted by Gallup in late April and early May, Gorbachev got a favourable rating from 41 per cent of Americans — outstripping former president Richard Nixon by two percentage points. (AP, Reuters)

FOREIGN BRIEFS

Iraq to compensate Turks for accidental bombing

ANKARA (Reuters). — Iraq told Turkey yesterday it was ready to pay compensation for losses and damage caused when Iraqi jets accidentally bombed a Turkish border village.

A Turkish Foreign Ministry statement said Iraqi ambassador Tariq Abdul Jabbar Jawad had expressed Baghdad's regret over the bombing on September 23. Three people were killed and 18 injured.

New Phalange leader

BEIRUT (AFP). — Lebanese lawyer Mounir Hajj was named yesterday secretary general of the Christian Phalange Party, the Christian community's principal political movement.

Hajj, who is close to Christian President Amin Gemayel, filled the newly vacated post of Charles Dahdah. Dahdah and one of the party's leading politburo members, Joseph Abu Khalil, tendered their resignations Monday to protest what Abu Khalil said was their "opposition to the way the party is being led, on the organizational as well as the political level."

Columbus coin could replace U.S. dollar

WASHINGTON (AFP). — The reliable one-dollar bill would be replaced by a coin bearing the likeness of Christopher Columbus under a bill introduced in Congress Tuesday.

Senate and House of Representatives members who sponsored the legislation said the public would save over \$50 million annually if a dollar coin replaces the bill. A coin "lives" 20 years, while dollar bills must be replaced every 18 months, the legislators said.

The coin would look "gold in color" but actually be 90 per cent copper.

Fear of mutinous troops envelops Manila, but city's commercial life goes on normally

MANILA, Philippines (AP). — The military deployed troops around Manila early yesterday after receiving reports that mutinous soldiers might attempt to overthrow President Corason Aquino, a senior officer said.

There were no reports of any attacks by midday, and commercial activity in the city was normal. Troops were stationed at checkpoints along the major expressway leading north from Manila, but traffic was proceeding without interruption.

Officials in Rizal Province, east of Manila, said constabulary troops on Wednesday intercepted an army platoon heading for the capital from a garrison in Laguna province.

But the platoon leader claimed the men were going to Manila to demand the removal of their company commander and not to take part in a mutiny, said constabulary sources, speaking on condition of anonymity. The men were detained without incident, the officials said.

Col. Emiliano Templo, chief of staff of the capital regional com-

mand, said the military received word late Tuesday that mutinous troops planned to enter the capital from Bulacan Province, north of Manila.

Templo said Brig. Gen. Ramon Montano, commander of a new anti-coup force, deployed an army battalion and two marine companies along major traffic arteries on the northern edge of the capital.

Philippine constabulary and army troops were sent to Muntinlupa and Antipolo on the southeastern edge of the capital, he said.

China publicizes Tibetan protest

PEKING (Reuters). — China gave rare publicity yesterday to a Tibetan separatist demonstration after lambasting the U.S. Congress for helping the Dalai Lama preach independence for Tibet.

The People's Daily gave front-page coverage to a street rally in Lhasa on Sunday in which 26 people, mainly Buddhist monks, shouted slogans such as "Tibet wants independence."

Western diplomats said they were surprised by the admission that a demonstration had occurred.

"Maybe they felt the news would get out anyway," said one.

An Asian diplomat said the publicity reflected growing openness in the state-controlled news media. The New China News Agency is-

sued a report about the demonstration in the middle of the night after publishing a wave of items on Tuesday about Tibet's history, the use of torture in pre-communist times and current living conditions.

It quoted senior Tibetan official Ngapoi Ngawang Jigme, vice-chairman of the standing committee of China's parliament, as saying the demonstration was a serious political incident aimed at splitting China and undermining Tibet's stability.

The demonstration followed the execution on September 24 in Lhasa of two Tibetans described by a local government official as criminals. They were said by Tibetan exiles in India to be political prisoners campaigning for Tibetan independence.

ABC NEWS — TEL AVIV

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Shultz asks Syria about Beirut airport security, Palestinian strongholds

UNITED NATIONS (Reuters). — The United States asked Syria on Tuesday to help improve security at Beirut International Airport and to get rid of key Palestinian strongholds in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley.

Secretary of State George Shultz made the request during a 40-minute meeting with Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk al-Shara, State Department spokesman Charles Redman said.

Shultz told al-Shara the United States welcomed Syria's decision to move Abu Nidal, a Palestinian group accused by the United States and other western countries of terrorism, out of their Damascus offices, Redman said.

But Shultz discussed other terrorism issues with the minister, including the need to improve security at the Beirut airport and concerns over Abu Nidal facilities in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley, an area controlled by Syria, Redman said.

Asked about al-Shara's reaction to Shultz's request on Abu Nidal, Redman said: "They listened closely." Shultz last met al-Shara in September 1986 when they were in New York for the U.N. General Assembly.

This year's meeting occurs during

a period of improved relations between the two countries. The United States still lists Syria as a terrorist country but as a result of recent Syrian help in seeking the release of Americans held hostage in Lebanon and in ousting Abu Nidal, Washington recently sent its ambassador back to Damascus.

Redman said Shultz and al-Shara discussed the Middle East peace process but "no new ground was broken." They also discussed the situation in Lebanon, where Syria earlier this year deployed several thousand troops in an effort to end the civil war.

Shultz repeated U.S. support for an independent Lebanon. Redman declined to say directly if Shultz had passed on to al-Shara any messages from President Amin Gemayel of Lebanon, who Shultz met earlier in the day.

The issue of American hostages in Lebanon came up several times and al-Shara said, "the Syrian government intends to do everything it can to work on this hostage problem." Redman said, adding that the Syrian minister had characterized hostagetaking as a "crime against humanity."

U.S. sends relief ships to Mediterranean

NORFOLK, Virginia (AFP). — The U.S. Navy on Tuesday began dispatching 15 ships carrying 13,000 sailors and Marines to relieve ships already in the Mediterranean in one of the first simultaneous deployments of two services.

A dozen ships, including the air-

craft carrier Coral Sea, a cruiser and four destroyers, left from Norfolk and the other three sailed from Charleston, South Carolina, the Navy said. The Coral Sea battle group will relieve the carrier Saratoga and its 12 escorts, which will return home in late November.

BASEBALL RESULTS

NATIONAL LEAGUE EAST DIVISION				Standings after Tuesday's games:			
	W	L	Pct.		W	L	Pct.
St. Louis	83	64	.562	Toronto	76	62	.550
New York	80	68	.539	Detroit	67	63	.515
Montreal	78	69	.529	Philadelphia	69	69	.500
Philadelphia	75	70	.514	New York	67	70	.489
Pittsburgh	72	71	.481	Boston	74	83	.471
Chicago	74	81	.477	Baltimore	65	82	.444

WEST DIVISION				AMERICAN LEAGUE EAST DIVISION			
	W	L	Pct.		W	L	Pct.
San Francisco	87	70	.554	Minnesota	75	73	.508
Cincinnati	80	77	.510	Kansas City	70	79	.469
Houston	74	83	.471	Oakland	78	79	.497
Los Angeles	70	87	.446	Seattle	74	83	.471
Atlanta	67	89	.429	Texas	74	83	.471
San Diego	64	93	.408	California	73	84	.465
				Chicago	73	84	.465

TUESDAY'S GAMES: Cincinnati 5, Atlanta 4; St. Louis 1, Montreal 6, 1st game; St. Louis 3, Montreal 6, 2nd game; Philadelphia 3, New York 6; Chicago at Pittsburgh, postponed due to rain; Los Angeles 6, Houston 1; San Francisco 5, San Diego 3.

TUESDAY'S GAMES: New York 6, Boston 9; Detroit 10, Baltimore 1; Milwaukee 5, Toronto 3; Chicago 1, California 6; Kansas City 6, Seattle 3; Texas 7, Minnesota 5; Oakland 5, Cleveland 4.

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FEATURES

Keeping the FBI out of politics

James Vicini, WASHINGTON

ONCE KNOWN for chasing bank robbers, car thieves and suspected subversives, a revamped Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has shifted its sights to spies, terrorists and mafiosi.

Its weapon is more likely to be a computer than a blazing tommygun. The image is more university-educated policeman than trench-coated gangbuster. Hardly anyone calls the agents "G-men" anymore.

It is a much-changed agency. Judge William Sessions, the new director, is inheriting from the one left behind by the late, legendary J. Edgar Hoover.

Sessions was confirmed in office by unanimous Senate vote on September 25.

The top five priorities for the FBI of the late Eighties, as outlined by officials at the federal law enforcement agency, are to combat international terrorists, catch spies, break up major drug cartels, put mobsters out of business and uncover major white-collar crimes. The emphasis on these complex and politically sensitive cases underscores the change in focus since the era of Hoover, the autocratic and publicity-loving director who moulded the

bureau as he pleased and ran it like a fiefdom from 1924 to his death in 1972.

UNDER Hoover, who made the bureau a storied American institution but also led it into bitter political controversy, the FBI targeted bank robbers, car thieves, kidnappers and — in the Cold War and Vietnam eras — suspected subversives.

These were high-profile cases that inflated the agency's arrest statistics and kept the so-called G-men in the public eye. In the 1940s and '50s, Hoover's glory days, the FBI's crime-busting and Communist-hunting exploits were romanticized in popular radio and television shows.

"The big difference from the Hoover period is that priorities have been set — quality over quantity," says FBI spokesman William Carter.

For example, he said, "we are targeting the leaders of the major criminal enterprises rather than ... car thieves." Outside the bureau,

however, it is a common observation that the big differences from Hoover's day include the absence of a Hoover and the determination among U.S. government leaders not to allow so powerful and independent a figure to reemerge.

It has come out in court cases and Congressional testimony that Hoover, whose appointment was for life, used the FBI to compile dossiers on his enemies, including U.S. presidents. The most notorious examples were his spying on John and Robert Kennedy and his building of a file on the sex life of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr., whom he despised.

HOOVER was feared. His successors — now limited by law to 10-year terms — have been respected figures, but they are not feared.

Sessions, a former Justice Department prosecutor and self-described west Texas tough guy, was appointed by President Ronald Reagan to succeed William Webster who now heads the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

"I have absolutely no problems with the priorities that have been established — white-collar crime, public corruption, counterintelli-

gence, terrorism and organized crime," Sessions said at his Senate confirmation hearings.

"He is going to be very much like Webster," says Democratic Congressman Don Edwards of California, a former FBI agent and a member of the House of Representatives Judiciary Committee. "He is going to keep the FBI out of politics."

"The biggest problem we have with the FBI is that we don't want it investigating Americans unless criminal activity is involved," Congressional investigations found that Hoover's agency kept files on thousands of Americans who were lawfully protesting against U.S. policies such as the Vietnam War.

When Webster arrived in 1978, the bureau was reeling from years of turmoil over revelations of domestic spying abuses. He was credited with polishing the FBI's tarnished image and improving morale, and won praise for reducing the number of terrorist incidents in America while respecting civil liberties.

Today, the bureau has a \$1.2 billion annual budget. Webster also eliminated the FBI's Hoover-era image as an all-white, all-male force. Its 9,311 agents now include

381 Hispanics, 383 blacks, 757 women, 110 Asian-Americans and 39 American Indians.

At Sessions's confirmation hearings, a black police group and a Hispanic organization nonetheless demanded more effort be made to recruit and promote ethnic minorities.

The agency also boasts that its ranks now include more lawyers, scientists, accountants and computer experts to help combat increasingly sophisticated criminals.

Giant computers at the FBI track cases and criminals. Another computer system allows FBI offices throughout the country to tap into the latest crime files.

Although Webster shared Hoover's insistence on personal integrity among agents, there have been some recent scandals. Last year, Richard Miller became the first FBI agent ever convicted of espionage. He passed secrets to a Soviet woman who claimed she was a KGB agent.

And the agency was severely criticized when Edward Lee Howard, a former CIA employee accused of spying for the Soviet Union, eluded FBI surveillance in 1985 and fled to Moscow.



New FBI boss, William Sessions, left, J. Edgar Hoover, right, and tommygun in "the good old days."



Black Forest village near Freiburg.

(AFP)

The secret of a good resort

MY MOTHER took me with her to Germany when she went to Bad Nauheim, for a cure patronized by heart sufferers. The famous spa was a lovely place. Fraulein Glueck, our landlady, was all smiles and prattled volubly. The teacher my mother hired to acquaint me with the rudiments of the German language moaned constantly about the French occupying Wiesbaden.

It was the year Rathenau was murdered.

"Nothing to worry about," those who knew the Germans better assured us. "A crime by a couple of madmen." My uncle began building a villa in Berlin's Gruenewald...

Twenty-five years later, I toured Germany at the invitation of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation. University professors explained to a bunch of Israelis how the New Germany was giving military personnel a sound civic education.

A few weeks ago, I was in Germany again, this time for a rest.

I had never heard of Hinterzarten until some *yekke* friends persuaded us to spend our vacation in that Black Forest resort.

Hinterzarten is half an hour by rail from Freiburg, or an hour's drive from Zurich airport. Before 1806, it was part of the Habsburg empire, but Napoleon allotted it to Baden, in order to weaken Austria. Maria Theresa's laws still govern the farmers' holdings, which are not allowed to be split among heirs. Marie Antoinette slept in what is now the Adler Hotel on her way to Paris to become the queen of France. The Adler is today one of the most highly-rated hotels in Europe, very popular with Arab potentates. "They come with a huge retinue in helicopters, and chase away all other residents while they occupy it," a chance acquaintance we met in the Rotary club informed us.

One had misgivings about going to Germany, in spite of President Her-

There and Then
Sraya Shapiro

zog's historic visit: it was like breaking a ban. But we soon realized that Israelis had discovered Hinterzarten long ago.

According to Rudolf Schlegel, the business manager of the resort, some 200-500 Israelis spend time in Hinterzarten over a year — a mere trickle among the 4,000 visitors present in Hinterzarten on any one day.

"Over 80 per cent are Germans, but we have Englishmen, Dutchmen, Austrians, even Americans," Schlegel says. The place is, in fact, German to the core. Seldom does one overhear any other language.

Hebrew, spoken in a low tone, erupts now and then. Occasionally, a woman, hearing us speak Hebrew, would smile and say "Shalom" and then hurry on her way.

THE SECRET of a good resort is to maintain its rural appearance while keeping up with comfort technology. Hinterzarten was just a small forgotten village until its beauty was discovered by tourists a century ago. Today, all the houses in the area, even those of recent construction, must retain a rural appearance — whitewashed or wood-covered walls, black, gabled roofs, all hidden in beautifully tended gardens.

Every building is freshly painted, giving the place a toy-like air. Only the Catholic church, a baroque structure on a medieval foundation, and the new *Kurhaus*, adopting modern lines, depart from the rule. Even the railway station looks like a country house.

"The link between a resort and its country background must be maintained at all price," maintains Schlegel. Indeed, the community pays farmers in the area 40 marks per head of cattle to keep them at their

jobs — lumbering timber seems to be more profitable, and easier, than farming.

"We insist that hotel owners look after their guests themselves. We won't allow the big hotel chains to get a foothold in Hinterzarten," Schlegel says. He is a third-generation Hinterzartener and loves the place. "You cannot do a lot if you're not completely identified with it," he explains.

Our landlady, Frau Trude Reiter, began letting rooms in her house 50 years ago. A big-towner (she was born in Stuttgart), she discovered Hinterzarten when visiting her husband, a hotel employee, in nearby Freiburg.

YOU CANNOT talk about Hinterzarten without mentioning Dr. Doris Walli. The grandniece of the great German actor Albert Bassermann, she had a Jewish girl, the daughter of the local rabbi, as her schoolfriend in her native Mannheim.

"Mannheim was the haven of freedom-seeking outsiders," she recalls. Tolerance permeated the city's cultural life. Jews, Spaniards, everybody, felt at ease in Mannheim. The Jewish community was divided into the rich, who had a Reform temple, and the poor, who were extremely Orthodox, with Rabbi Uma as their leader.

"When the Nazis took over, the rich Jews disappeared, emigrated to Amsterdam, to New York. The poor remained." But one day, Rabbi Uma also left — for Palestine. And his daughter Rachel, Dr. Walli's friend, came to say goodbye.

"She was worried, when very young, how to regard herself — as a Jew? a German? Hitler solved the problem."

Did she herself know about the Holocaust?
"Strange to admit, but we knew nothing at all in the first few years of the war. They proceeded in a most raffined (sophisticated) way. They rounded up people at night. People just disappeared, nobody knew how or where to. Until one day a fellow doctor, who had some contacts with the deportation system, told me what she had learned secretly. And six months before the catastrophe, our chief referred publicly to 'acts for which Germany will have to pay.'"

The information was revolting, says Walli. She had always been proud of the German cultural heritage. "Such things could not be German." But they were, of course. Ten years after the war ended, she

took her mother on a Mediterranean cruise, and visited Nazareth.

"But I did not dare to look for my old school friend. I was not sure how she would take me."

The two did, however, meet later, and Dr. Walli is now a frequent visitor to Israel.

"I adore the Israelis for their courage and resourcefulness," she says. "You will be an exceptional man if, as an Israeli, you try to leave her a fee for medical treatment. But then, she's an exceptional person to everybody in the area: they call her the Angel of Hinterzarten."

Dr. Walli was once asked to write down what she knew about the Holocaust. "I did it, in longhand. But my handwriting is so bad that even I myself have trouble deciphering it. One day I'll get around to typing it."

COULD HISTORY repeat itself? Young Germans, interviewed on TV, generally assert that, while they are not responsible for what happened, they feel it their duty to see that it does not happen again. But can they influence their fate?

Looking out of the window onto Hinterzarten's only long street, one is struck by the uniform way people are dressed. It's inevitably a light beige wind-jacket for men and women, and a pale yellow or green dress for the latter, rarely a black coat, or even a red skirt.

In a country where people are accustomed to take the lead from above, whoever the ruler, claims of resistance should be taken sceptically.

The other day, for instance, Germany stopped buying fish, because a television reporter discovered that some species of fish in the North Sea contained worms that could be harmful to humans. A fishmonger, in tears, complained to a TV reporter that she had to shut her business for lack of customers.

How adventures become national heroes is a mystery. Napoleon, who twice led his nation to disaster, is the pride of the French. When Rudolf Hess died, a woman, interviewed for German television, wept, repeating, "He was a good German." Goebbels is described as a hero by the publisher of his diaries.

Be that as it may, synagogues are sprouting again in Germany. The opening of the Mannheim synagogue was screened on national television. In Freiburg, a huge building is nearing completion. It will house a synagogue and an old-age home. The road back is open.

Saga of a Soviet escapee

Andrea Salomon

IT WAS LITTLE more than a year ago that Felix Edelman slipped through a security crack in a Soviet tour group and made his way westward to Israel. However his journey to "the Eretz" was just the first half of his plight. The 55-year-old physicist is still in search of a route which would reunite him with his wife and family.

Edelman's adventure story began in May 1986, when he received permission from the Soviet government to take part in a 10-day tour of Finland.

"For 10 years I had been making requests to go to a non-Soviet bloc country so I could escape. This was my one chance to get my freedom and my family's freedom," he said. "I had to do it."

But planning an escape from Finland is very risky, Edelman explained. Unlike other countries in Scandinavia or Western Europe, Finland has an agreement with the USSR to return any Soviet citizen found illegally within its borders. Edelman's second major problem was how to procure enough time to cross the border before the Finnish government began their nationwide manhunt.

The tour group arrived in Kotka on July 28, 1986. That afternoon, Edelman took the first of his many detours and went to the train station, where he telephoned the Israel Embassy. Frustrated in his attempt to meet with the embassy staff member, he turned to the Finnish Jewish community based in Helsinki.

On August 3, Edelman met with a community leader who arranged a date the following day with the man responsible for mapping out the escape route into Sweden.

How was Edelman able to leave his closely-monitored group and on several occasions, meet with "these wonderful Finnish Jews," Edelman spoke excellent English, and hence became the tour's spokesperson. Also, because he had travelled to many Soviet-bloc countries, he was permitted to take his camera and go on short excursions. "I was lucky, I had a privileged position," he said.

Brought up in the Siberian city of Novosibirsk, Edelman was a successful physicist. He was a senior scientist and head of a laboratory at the Institute of Physics of Semiconductors, an associate member of the State University of Novosibirsk, and a member of the Siberian branch of the Soviet Academy of Sciences which he was leaving behind.

WITH HIS escape plans finalized, he tried to enjoy his last remaining days with his wife, knowing that they were going to be separated for an indeterminate period.

There would be the inevitable interrogation for Lydia and her solo flight back to Novosibirsk, where she would have to manage with their four children, the two youngest daughters still in high school.

Also hovering over Edelman was the question of how to slip away from the group for the six hours he needed to cross the border. The problem was the tight security.

"There is one person in the group acting as a tourist but who is really a KGB agent, and no one knows who that person is," he said. "Attendance is monitored four times a day by requiring the whole group to eat together, and then there is a hotel check at 10:00 p.m."

So a few days before the end of the tour Edelman began faking a stomach disorder and asked a doctor on the tour for some pills. On August 4, the second to last night of the tour, in the town of Lahti, about 150 km. from the Soviet border he asked the tour guide if he could be excused from dinner and have something light in a local cafe. Upon receiving permission, he said goodbye to his wife, and quickly met with his first contact. He declined to give any details of his journey to the Swedish border for fear of harming the chances of another Soviet citizen taking the same route.

On arriving in Stockholm, Edelman immediately called his wife at the hotel.

"How are you," I asked Lydia," he said. "She had just been questioned by the KGB agent, who was, to my surprise, the big fat nice lady, and she was waiting for the arrival of

the Soviet ambassador to Finland. There was no official investigation of the Edelman family back in the Soviet Union. The only repercussion was that Lydia was demoted from her position of electrical technician in her husband's research group at the Semi-Conductors Institute to a worker in the library.

WITH ALL HIS professional success, and with no strong ties to Judaism or Zionism, why did Edelman opt to come to Israel and run the risk of being separated from his family indefinitely?
"Perhaps I would not have left the Soviet Union if I had had the chance to visit Israel and see what it's all about — it ends up like it very much here and don't want to live anywhere else," he said.

"I cannot be insulated from other cultures. I want to see the world. I must have the opportunity to eat pizza in Rome, I must have the right to see Jerusalem, I must be free." In a softer tone Edelman continued: "I also could not live until my death only with Russians, I had to be with Jews and live amongst my own people."

He also explained that there is a growing element of anti-Semitism among the younger generation and that he worries about the future of his children. "My children would have a better future here; because they are Jews, hence it was up to me to escape and create a bridge between the USSR and Israel."

But this is where the problem lies. When Edelman arrived in Israel he immediately drafted a letter "inviting" his family to join him as required by Soviet law.

Lydia presented the letter to the proper authorities who rejected her request claiming that her husband is not legally recognized as being in Israel.

"I did not know what that meant so I went to the Finnish Embassy, asking them how I can get the status of being 'legally in Israel,'" he said.

Edelman made that request in March, and after receiving no answer but has had no reply to that or to a query to the Soviet Foreign Ministry. All he knows, through telephone conversations with his family, is that since February the Edelmanns have been stigmatized as Refuseniks, they are very short of money and in the summer his 52-year-old wife had to undergo major surgery.

FELIX EDELMAN has obtained a job at the Haifa Technion and is conducting research on semiconductors for computers. The Jewish Agency is paying his salary, and if they approve his work may do so for the next three years.

Having exhausted all official channels to the Soviet government, he says he is willing to resort to anything, even a hunger strike. Meanwhile, he feels that pressure from Zionist organizations anywhere might help his case, and to this end wrote an open letter "to all Jews" last month, asking them to turn to the Ovir MVD (the emigration authorities in the USSR); General Secretary Gorbachev; the first Secretary of the Novosibirsk Committee of the Communist Party; the president of the Academy of Sciences, Academician Marchuk; or the president of the Siberian branch of the Academy, Academician Koptug.

(His family's address is: 19 Ucha Street, apt. 17, Novosibirsk 630090, USSR.)

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The Hebrew University wishes its staff, students, alumni, friends and the entire House of Israel a Happy Succot holiday.

There is no sports page in today's Jerusalem Post, owing to the one-day ban on sports coverage in the local media imposed by the Israel Journalists' Association after Saturday's attack on Yedioth Aharonot reporter Zedek Yehzekell.

Soviet harvest emergency

Where's the grain?

By ANDREW WILSON

MOSCOW. — In four months there have been barely 14 days of continuous sun, and for the past three weeks the rain has poured steadily on the waterlogged Russian countryside. On some days, Moscow midday temperatures have not risen above four or five degrees.

Last weekend, as an emergency measure, Soviet residents of towns and cities were urged to go into the fields and harvest potatoes and other vegetables by hand.

The newspaper *Sovetskaya Rossiya* said only half the quantity of potatoes harvested by this time last year had so far been gathered. The situation with other vegetables was just as bad.

"Everywhere it must be understood that emergency measures are necessary," it said, emphasizing the point in heavy type. "Non-stop work using all the available farm equipment is not enough. It is essential to move large masses of people out to the job."

Earlier a senior agricultural official appealed to collective and state farm workers to continue the grain harvest manually if farm equipment could not be used on the rain-soaked fields.

On Wednesday, *Pravda* repeated the emergency call in a front-page editorial. "All energies must be devoted to the harvest campaign in order to complete the field work in an organized manner and without delay," it said.

The maize, sunflower, sugar-beet, cotton and potato harvests were all worse than last year. Grain was still unharvested on millions of hectares, and the situation was especially critical in Siberia, parts of Kazakhstan and areas of middle-northern Russia. Crops which have been harvested were in many cases lying out in the wet fields rotting because of poor storage.

Using the same bold type as *Sovetskaya Rossiya*, *Izvestia* said that only half the grain had been threshed in the northern part of the huge Kazakhstan Republic breadbasket, with part of the crop left to rot in the fields.

"Constant rains have upset the rhythm of the harvest in northern Siberia and the Kazakh virgin lands," it said. "But due to old habits, in Kazakhstan they first started stacking the grain in heaps — using the technique for good weather. So now the threshing is all awry."

This year the grain harvest was given a target of 232 million tonnes, compared with last year's 210 million (the best result since a record 237 million tonnes in 1978).

The most recent United States Department of Agriculture estimate for this year's crop was 205 million. But it begins to look as if this will have to be lowered, reflecting an increased Soviet need of American and other Western grain imports.

A further disaster is that the poor weather is also preventing the sowing of the winter crop. A meeting of the Politburo is reportedly to have considered the situation "extremely strained."

The earlier optimistic Soviet estimate of a "bumper" crop this year was based on fair weather and the effect of recent agricultural reforms, including the placing of all agricultural activities under an umbrella organization, "Agroprom."

But last week Agroprom's deputy head, Yevgeny Sizenko, said the situation was "exceptionally difficult" — particularly as weather forecasters are predicting the first frosts any day now.

On September 18, the agricultural daily *Selskaya Zhizn* (Rural Life) spoke of resistance to the reforms from collective farm managers, afraid of losing their prestige as a result of greater democracy. Agri-



Happier days for this Soviet farmer during the 1975 harvest. (UPI)

cultural workers were thus less inclined than industrial workers to criticize management and show initiative.

The situation looks like a setback to hopes of early results from Gorbachev's *perestroika*. In Moscow and other cities so far the main effect of economic "restructuring" has been an increase in prices, particularly food.

Last week, the generally frank *Moscow News* published the result

of a poll among workers in the Urals.

According to the survey, only five per cent expect concrete results this year. A quarter expect real change within the current Five Year Plan period (1986-91). Fifteen per cent expect the economy to be more efficient by 1995, and 23 per cent more distant. The rest have not yet made up their minds.

(London Observer Service)

THE TAX BURDEN/Jeff Broide

Taking the NII to court

Q. The problem is, that we have a small limited family company ("chevra mishpachit") and for tax purposes you had to name a neshom (taxpayer — JB) which was chosen to be me. My accountant told me over the years that I am not required to pay national insurance fees — except for my salary, of course. Indeed I did not receive payment requests from the National Insurance Institute.

impossible to legally implement since the company is a separate legal entity.

It is clear that Section 64A was introduced in order to cover certain closed family-type corporations and accordingly the income tax authorities have dealt with the tax liability of such companies as indicated.

However, it appears (and unfortunately yours is not the only case)

that you proceed to take this matter to court and trust that you will succeed there. (You may be interested to know that there would appear to be provisions in the National Insurance Law which obligate the NII to provide legal assistance for those who make legal claims against them.)

Q. We immigrated from the U.S. some years ago. My wife works for an American employer by doing work here in Israel. She receives payment by direct payment into a New York bank account. Whenever we are in need of funds, we transfer money by cheque into our shekel account here. So far we have been declaring the gross amount of my wife's income together with my own income in Israel as a self-employed taxpayer and have been paying the normal Israeli taxes due.

I read your column regularly in The Jerusalem Post and noticed on August 30 this year that my wife may have a strong case for not being liable to taxes in Israel altogether. Is this correct and what are the details? (R.P. Jerusalem)

I am afraid that you have taken my answer in the August 30 edition of *The Jerusalem Post* out of context. The question there related specifically to a citizen of Israel living overseas for an extended period of time, during which he or she visited Israel for short periods and only temporarily.

However, in your wife's instance, where she actually works in Israel, then the Income Tax Ordinance specifically taxes income earned from work carried on or done in Israel — the well-known source principle — which, in effect, states that income arising in or accrued or received in Israel will be taxable here. This, of course, is the general principle.

In your wife's case, where she actually works in Israel, the fact that she receives the income overseas does not render her exempt from Israeli income tax. Therefore, you acted correctly in reporting such income together with your own when paying regular Israeli income tax.

The situation would be different where you had a foreign source of income which was unrelated to the work, profession or business which you carried on in Israel — in such circumstances, and depending on the exact details of the situation, amounts received in Israel as income will be taxed as indicated in the August 20 edition, that is at 25 per cent of the net amount or at 48 per cent of the gross amount, from which may be deducted any taxes paid overseas.

However, where the amounts are transferred irregularly and as capital transfers, these may well be exempt from taxes altogether.

The writer is a Certified Public Accountant (Israel). Questions may be addressed to him c/o The Jerusalem Post.

Under the Income Tax Ordinance the income of a family company may be treated as the income of the largest shareholder in that company. But it must be stressed that this provision is merely for calculating the income tax liability of the family company.

Now suddenly, the NII wants me to pay a huge amount for the lapsed years (including interest and index). My accountant explained to them that I was the neshom only as a matter of formality, as required by income tax. This did not help and they even blocked my bank account, until my accountant intervened.

Is there a chance to win in a court case? (W. Jacobson, Nahariya)

In terms of Section 64A of the Income Tax Ordinance, the income of a family company may be treated as the income of the largest shareholder in that company. But it must be stressed that this provision is merely for purposes of calculating the income tax liability of the family company and in no way imputes the income to be actually that of such a shareholder, an act which is, in fact,

that the NII has, over the last few years, attempted to levy national insurance payments on such income as if it were, in fact, the income of the particular shareholder. Thus far, attempts by accountants, including the Israel Institute of CPAs, have borne no fruit and the NII has not budged on this issue, despite the fact

that the income is not dividend income, and that the income, in fact, belongs to the family company and merely for tax convenience purposes, (that is, for purposes of the tax calculation), is imputed to the major shareholder.

It would appear that the stand taken by the NII authorities is contrary to the law and it is not at all clear on what they base their claim. I would, therefore, respectfully sug-

Mexico came close to defaulting on its foreign debts in 1982.

Since he handed over the reins at the fed to Alan Greenspan, Volcker has given occasional lectures and accepted an unpaid two-year stint as chairman of a non-government committee formed to examine ways to make public service more attractive.

Volcker, who held a senior treasury post before taking over as president of the powerful New York Fed in 1975, was sometimes mentioned as a contender for World Bank president, but the job went last year to Conable, a former Republican congressman from upstate New York.

Hongkong shares at record high

Hongkong share prices surged to a record high yesterday as a buying spree fuelled the market's biggest daily gain in six months.

The main market barometer, the

Hang Seng index, surged 84.16 points to close at 3,943.64. It was the first time it had closed over 3,900.

Brokers said money from small investors, as well as big foreign investment funds, poured into the market after the index absorbed a modest 25-point setback on Tuesday. Turnover climbed to 3.4 billion Hongkong dollars from 3.2b. on Tuesday.

"Small investors were ready to buy almost anything," said a local broker.

Money is being lured into the market by the prospect of big earnings by major companies, and expectations that the British colony's booming economy will grow at a blistering 12 per cent pace this year, brokers said.

Stock market officials are in the United States to meet Wall Street investors to try to attract more American funds to the market.

WORLD BUSINESS IN BRIEF

U.S. index rises again

WASHINGTON (Reuters). — The U.S. government's main barometer of economic activity rose 0.6 per cent in August after a 0.3 per cent increase in July, signalling continued strength in the economy, the Commerce Department here said

yesterday.

The index of leading indicators, which predicts economic trends three to six months in advance, now has risen for seven consecutive months, the department said.

The August increase was at the high end of most financial analysts' forecasts and was driven by higher stock prices.

Volcker's new job

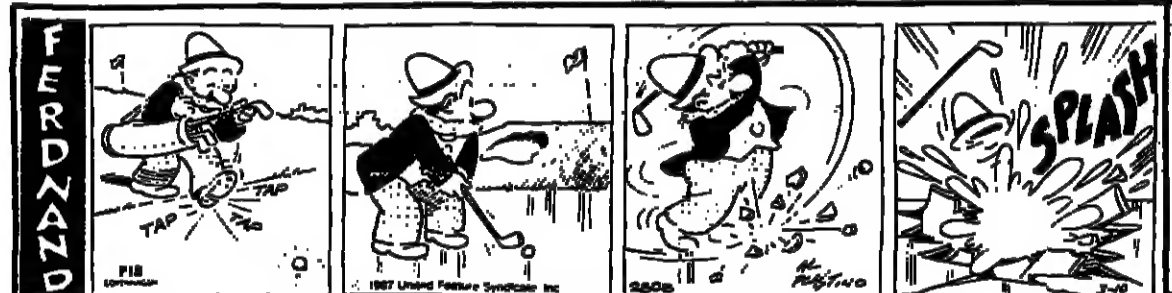
Paul Volcker, former chairman of the U.S. federal reserve and a leading authority on international finance, will act as an adviser to the World Bank on international debt issues, the bank announced this week. Barber Conable, president of the bank, said that Volcker, 60, will act as a general adviser from time to time.

"Paul is one of the most respected

voices in the fields of economics and international finance, and I am delighted that he will be devoting some of his time in the future to working with us," Conable said.

Volcker, a tall, rumpled figure with simple tastes, stepped down as chairman of the U.S. central bank in August after eight years in the job.

He carved out a reputation as a fierce inflation-fighter and took a large share of the credit for stabilizing the world financial system when



CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 6 Blades cut the required patterns in it (6-7)
- 8 Crustacean initially in supermarket offer—people order daily (6)
- 9 It raises a point with the French tax alternative (8)
- 10 A bit charged in the studio normally (3)
- 11 Strive to contain droop in the face (6)
- 12 Padding in ocean—that's odd before midnight (8)
- 14 Tati returns in later years to disturb (7)
- 16 Left one firm for an opening that is protected (7)
- 20 General coin (6)

DOWN

- 23 Quaker's half-day closing (6)
- 24 Used for lighting and heating in Madagascar (3)
- 25 He makes plans for king to visit ruined Chester (6)
- 26 Point to burst baked potatoes, possibly (6)
- 27 Cool lot in game turning out, showing such interest in cricket perhaps? (13)
- 1 Encourage factory to produce fruit (3-5)
- 2 Bank allowance about to expire (3)
- 3 Spirit of drivers in France (7)
- 4 Beware the navy's underground hollow (6)

55 Well up cooking the French diet (6)

- 6 Angling to seize sporting equipment (7-6)
- 7 It's operators give down to earth advice (6-7)
- 13 We hear the time belongs to us (3)
- 15 Law-breaking tool (3)
- 17 Not seen by the house? (3-5)
- 18 Traffic could make it a black trip (6)
- 19 How any girl reacts when insulted (7)
- 21 Groups suitable for the boat race (6)
- 22 Get somebody up, say (6)

Yesterday's Solution

PHILIPPINES: H N F A R O N
W A T E R D E S T I N G
H A D O U S I A B E D
U N L O O S E C O U L O U R S
E L C I N O R G
T O R Y F A V G O D E R
I N T R O Y A V I C
N E U T R O N C L O S E U P
C O N S I S T I
R E S H O M O S A P I E N S
O A R S O L T I R E
P S I N C O M E T A K E S

QUICK SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Melon, 4 Collie, 9 Leafy, 10 Yarn, 11 Ewer, 12 Absence, 13 Yarn, 14 Byrne, 16 Undo, 18 Ave, 20 Pontyryn, 21 Lair, 24 Outdo, 25 Unicorn, 26 Thebes, 27 Death. DOWN: 1 Mallet, 2 Loose, 3 Norm, 5 Odysseus, 6 Learned, 7 Easter, 8 Ocean, 18 Penelope, 15 Yangtze, 17 Aloft, 18 Annul, 19 Drench, 22 Aroma, 23 Find.

QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Watery discharge from eye (6)
- 4 Madness (5)
- 10 Ardent (7)
- 11 Plaster of Paris (6)
- 13 South American mountain range (6)
- 15 Liberate (7)
- 16 Hebridean isle (4)
- 17 Australian marsupial (6)
- 19 Flood (6)
- 22 London art gallery (4)
- 23 Great joy (7)
- 27 Rag (6)
- 29 Hull (5)
- 30 Having scent (7)
- 31 Artifice, pretence (6)
- 32 Fish (5)

DOWN

- 2 King of Judaea (5)
- 3 Implement (7)
- 5 Theatrical backer (6)
- 6 Moment (7)
- 7 Dead matter, rubbish (6)
- 8 Unyielding (5)
- 9 Meeting of witches (7)
- 14 Compass point (4)
- 15 Curse (4)
- 16 At an angle, sloping (7)
- 20 Bird (7)
- 21 Expert (6)
- 24 One of Osmes' substitutes (5)
- 25 Offensively loud (6)
- 26 Colour (6)
- 28 Old English coin (5)

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Elit 72333 Rehovot 461333
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Hatzor 336333 Tel Aviv 5480111
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The politics of security

THE CITIZENRY can hardly be faulted for being perplexed, if they are. For a pretty fierce row has this week erupted at the top level of government over the question whether Israel's internal peace is or is not being gravely endangered by mounting Arab terrorism. Contrary, however, to the impression created by the exchange of some particularly shocking vulgarities on the subject at last Sunday's cabinet meeting, the row has not assumed a strictly party-political character. The two chief protagonists on both sides of the argument are rival Herut leaders.

Ariel Sharon, the former defence minister, is certain that the country is going to the dogs because terrorists are emboldened by a weak-kneed official response to their outrages, meaning by the policies pursued by the incumbent minister of defence and prime minister. Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir rejects the accusations with barely concealed contempt. The Shin Bet, Mr. Shamir has assured the people, is still doing an excellent job, and Israel remains one of the safest countries in the world.

Within limits, Mr. Shamir's thesis is unassailable. Its most recent proof is the thwarting of two deadly Fatah plots: one, due to have been carried out last spring by local members of the Islamic Jihad, to explode a huge car-bomb at the government building complex in Jerusalem; the other, set by its intending perpetrators as a test of admission to Fatah, to bomb the Jerusalem central bus station. Arrests have been made, and trials will be held.

The success of the Israeli terror-busters in these instances was greatly facilitated by the fact that the conspirators had been a well-organized bunch directed from across the border. An organizational terrorist setting is not quite a *sine qua non* of prevention: a large number of small bombs deposited by unorganized individuals have been discovered in time, and dismantled by the police. One such bomb was spotted by a passerby at a bus stop near the Charles Clore Park in Tel Aviv, and promptly neutralized, only last Tuesday.

But the lawmen's task in such cases is very much harder. And the trouble is that the vast majority of successful terrorist attacks of late have been of the unorganized, sporadic kind that does not readily lend itself to prior detection.

The instrument of death is usually a simple knife. It was a knife that served Hilal Haj Ibrahim in the killing of reservist Alexander Arad at the Megiddo junction last week, and it was knives that were used by their evidently Arab assailants on two teenagers near Ramat Hasharon and on a taxi-driver in Jerusalem. The purpose in such killings is plainly to murder Jews, and inspiration aplenty is provided for it by PLO propaganda. But propaganda alone could not drive people to such acts in the absence of motivation that is autonomously supplied.

Mr. Sharon has been rather vague about measures that would, to his mind, eradicate the motivation of individual Arabs in the West Bank and Gaza to risk killing Jews even if it lands them in jail for long periods of time. A friend of Mr. Sharon's in the oppositionist Tehiya, former IDF chief of staff Rafael Eitan, has been rather less diplomatic. Rafal would have any Arab killer who is seen or seized carrying a knife, or for that matter a club.

The prescription invites less scrutiny of its merits than a dose of psychotherapy for its author. Still, is there no way to reduce that motivation to a point where it does not actually threaten the feeling of personal safety to which Jews are manifestly entitled in their own land?

Those who believe that Arabs, especially Palestinian Arabs, are murderous by nature and take pleasure in the killing of Jews, might say, no, there isn't, except to get rid of them all. A certain party in Israel does in fact, to Israel's shame, subscribe to this theory. Those who reject it can only by a self-willed blindness ignore the origins of individual Arab violence against individual Jews that lie in the 20-year old occupation.

Israel's occupation of Judea, Samaria and Gaza has long been touted, and with some reason, as the most benign in history. But the Palestinians in the territories do not care about history nearly as much as they care about their state of subjection to an alien and all too often oppressive rule, which takes their indispensable employment in its fields and factories for granted.

Any treatment of the problem of terrorism that is divorced from the realities and politics of occupation is an exercise in futility.

PERES TALKS

(Continued from Page One)

dieters missing in Lebanon was also raised at the meeting. It was revealed yesterday that Peres had handed a list of the missing soldiers to Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze at their meeting this week.

Peres also met yesterday with Turkish Foreign Minister Yashar Guler. In a meeting that was described as "particularly cordial" by Israeli aides, the two ministers agreed to enhance the "commercial, industrial and technological" ties between Israel and Turkey.

The Likud ministers decided yesterday to launch a renewed public relations campaign against the international conference in anticipation of Shultz's visit.

Prime Minister Shamir told his cabinet colleagues in a meeting in Jerusalem yesterday that Shultz would undoubtedly raise the matter of the conference during his visit but he reiterated his adamant opposition to the proposal. Shamir said that he would urge Shultz to lobby for his idea of a "regional conference."

Shamir also said yesterday that he would propose to Shultz that in his meetings in Moscow he stress the need to have Soviet Jews categorized as a separate nationality, and that they be allowed to emigrate on the basis of family unification. Shamir said that the Jews should be accorded the same treatment as the Soviet German ethnic minority in the Soviet Union, which is currently being allowed to emigrate at a rate of 1,400-1,500 a month on the basis of repatriation.

Shamir said that Peres had indeed

adopted his proposal for presenting the differences of opinion concerning the international conference in his UN address. Shamir added that "everyone abroad is well aware that the international conference is a non-starter."

Meanwhile, Arab diplomatic sources at the UN said that the small number of Arab and Moslem states whose representatives walked out at the beginning of Peres's speech to the General Assembly on Tuesday, was indicative of an appreciation of Peres's efforts to move towards peace. Among those who had walked out were Saudi Arabia, Libya, Sudan, Iran, Lebanon, Oman, and Syria. A low-level Moroccan delegate stayed for the first part of the speech, getting up and walking out after Peres praised King Hassan as a man of peace. Among those Moslem countries which did not walk out were Jordan, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Egypt.

Both the PLO and the Arab League representatives responded to Peres's remarks with hard line speeches. However, a reliable source said the PLO was appreciative that Peres did not attack that organization by name during his speech, but instead appealed to the Palestinian people to make peace with Israel. Syria, on the other hand, was said to have shown no indication of any positive response to the Peres speech.

Peres also met yesterday with the foreign ministers of Yugoslavia and Nigeria. The Yugoslav news agency, Tanjug, reported that Yugoslav Foreign Minister Rado Dizdarevic told Peres that Belgrade did not at present intend to restore diplomatic relations with Israel.

'THE GOOD OLD DAYS' IN THE USSR False nostalgia

Mikhail Agursky

OVER THE PAST few months we have been hearing repeatedly that the present situation with regard to human rights and the situation of Jews in the USSR have deteriorated in comparison to Brezhnev's or Khrushchev's time. There are even those who claim that the intellectual atmosphere under Khrushchev was significantly better than under Gorbachev.

It is not difficult to imagine the feelings such irresponsible statements provoke among those with personal experience of these times. To describe them as negative would be a considerable understatement.

The USSR is still far from being a democratic system in the Western sense of the word; its progress towards a more humane society can be measured only comparatively. Let us, therefore, go back to Khrushchev's so-called best period - 1961-64. In June 1961, the Soviet government suddenly raised the price of vital commodities (milk, meat, etc.) by nearly 50 per cent. The deep dissatisfaction this created throughout the country was expressed in various ways. The authorities responded by brutally suppressing peaceful demonstrations in Alexandrov, Murom, Novocherkassk, Krasnodar, and other areas.

In Murom, an important centre of the Soviet military industry about 250 km. east of Moscow, unrest was provoked by the brutality of the local police. A young engineer was arrested for no serious reason in the only local restaurant, tied up and thrown into the back of a truck. The truck's sides were not secured properly, and the young man fell out and was killed.

Several thousand local workers joined the funeral procession which,

instead of going the usual way to the cemetery through the main street of the city, was forced by the police to take a long alternative route. A dispute broke out between the mourners and the policemen blocking entry to the main street; this drew a growing crowd which, within half an hour erupted into a noisy demonstration, with some activists loudly protesting not only police brutality but also the lack of food in the shops.

The authorities had already asked for help, and when demonstrators criticized the system of food supplies, they were surrounded by paratroopers who had arrived from the neighbouring town of Kovrov. They were all arrested, and when the trial took place a few months later, some were executed and dozens were condemned to varying terms of imprisonment or exile.

IT WAS ALSO during these "good old days" that the USSR erected the Berlin Wall and brought the world to the brink of war in Cuba. At this time, too, the USSR started practising psychiatry for political purposes, and many political trials were staged - for example, the first trial of Eduard Kuznetsov and Vladimir Osipov.

With regard to the freedom of "creative discussion" at this period, this would seem to exist only in the imaginations of those members of the Soviet cultural and literary establishment who have since lost their positions and emigrated from the USSR.

How can anyone speak about "freedom of discussion" at a time when any nonconformism almost automatically invited persecution, and when any interest shown by Jews in Israel resulted in arrest and trial for "Zionism." It was also at this time that a vicious anti-religious campaign was mounted in the USSR and only Khrushchev's dismissal saved all religions, including Judaism, from almost total destruction.

It was also a period of discrimination against Jews in almost all fields. In Khrushchev's time I dissociated myself from Soviet ideology, the last straw being the treacherous execution of the Hungarian leader Imre Nagy in 1958.

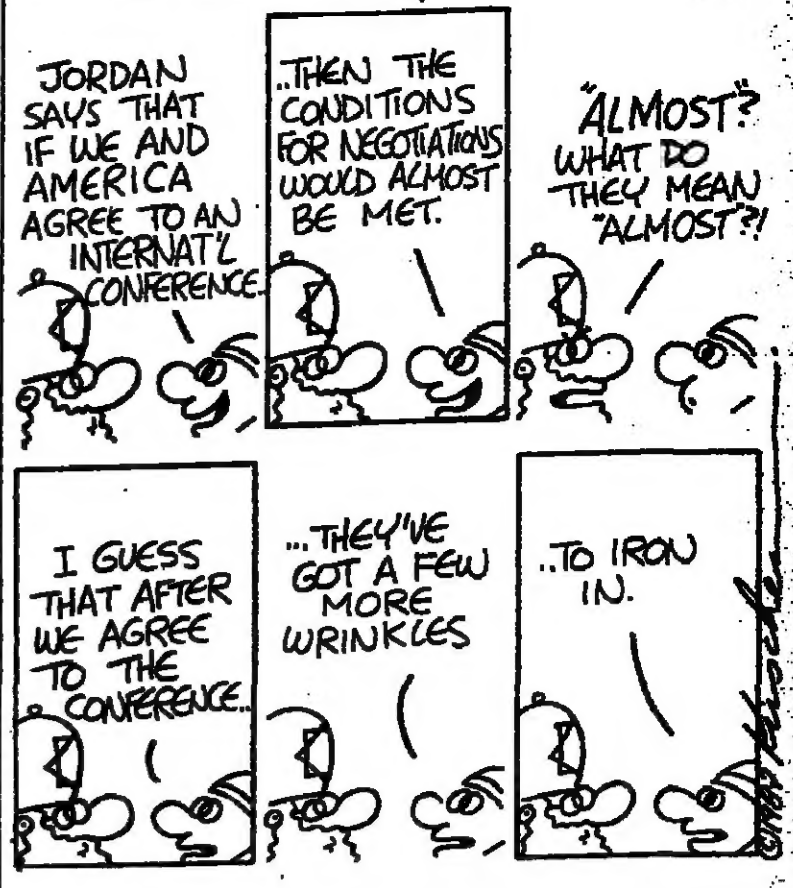
Khrushchev's era was better than Stalin's era - this cannot be denied. But when anyone speaks of Khrushchev's "paradise" he is insulting the victims of that era.

Again, Brezhnev's era was better than Khrushchev's. Here, too, we witnessed persecution of human rights activists, political abuse of psychiatry, persecution of the Jewish movement, arrest and harassment of Jewish activists, unbridled anti-Semitism, acting under the guise of anti-Zionism, active support of Arab extremism and terror. The Jewish emigration permitted at the beginning of the Seventies, more like expulsion than normal emigration, was actually stopped in the Eighties.

We who were witness to this do not have many good things to say about Brezhnev's time.

AND NOW, when arrests and harassment have stopped, prisoners of Zion have been released, and emigration has been resumed (not to mention the unprecedented freedom of ideological and political discus-

Dry Bones



sion), persons encouraged by certain Western political circles dare to tell us that the present situation in the USSR is worse than it was under Brezhnev.

The Soviet system has not become democratic or liberal in the Western sense, but it has made enormous progress from its nightmarish past under Stalin.

We were indignant when La Pen tried to rehabilitate the Nazis by claiming that the Holocaust was a "marginal" event. But this is done all the time by various Soviet emigrant groups who claim that Communism is worse than Nazism.

False claims of the deterioration of human rights and the situation of Soviet Jews in the USSR have a very

important political function in the Israeli political context. If it is true, then there is no chance of any improvement in Soviet-Israeli relations and no chance of any peaceful solution of the Middle East conflict.

These "nostalgic" claims are not as innocent as one might think. Certainly, it is Israel's national duty to do everything possible to guarantee the right of aliyah to those Soviet Jews who want it, but it now seems that Israel can achieve more in this direction not by confrontation with the USSR, but through an improvement in our relations.

The writer is a member of the Soviet and Eastern European Research Centre at the Hebrew University.

READERS' LETTERS

NATURAL METHODS OF TREATMENT

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, - In reply to Michael Kaniel's letter of September 20 regarding my article on how to cure heart disease by natural methods without drugs, I would like to point out that the *Consumer Guide* quoted by the reader is from 1979.

At that time, not only *Consumer Guide*, but virtually the entire medical establishment and even the American Heart Association, did not accept Pritikin's drastic diet and exercise regimen for alleviating and even reversing atherosclerosis. Since then all of these bodies have come around to admitting the validity of Pritikin's basic approach.

Many still complain, however, that the Pritikin method is much too strict for the average person to follow. This may be true considering the many bad health habits which have become rooted in our modern western culture, and the ease with which drugs for symptomatic relief (not for curing) are dispensed and consumed. But since the method's effectiveness has been proved many times over, it is up to the individual to decide whether he is willing to make the effort to overcome his heart disease and lead a fuller and longer life or try symptomatic drug treatment and operations instead, leading inevitably to an earlier and more painful death.

One of the main points made in my article of September 6, which was essentially removed by your editor's knife, is that traditional medicine is on the wrong track in dealing with disease and health. It treats symp-

oms rather than causes, deals in disease rather than health, and virtually ignores preventive measures and natural cures which require changing habits and life styles. I pointed out that the patient contributes to this process by preferring the "easy" way, namely, quick, visible relief with drugs. He prefers that the doctor do the work for him, rather than make the effort himself. At the least he can thus avoid having to change his bad habits.

The doctor, abetted by the brainwashing of the drug companies, is quite content to take this easy way out too, since it assures him plenty of patients without undue effort and consultations. Doctors know little, if anything, about nutrition and diet, whose abuse is a major cause of modern-day diseases. With a few exceptions, American and Israeli medical schools do not teach it, either as an elective or as a required course.

Heart operations, drugs and similar treatments don't cure the disease of atherosclerosis. They merely treat its symptoms and only delay the day of a much worse reckoning. In the process, however, the drugs cause harmful side effects, dull the patient with artificial improvement and relieve him of any visible need to change his habits. Even in the realm of releasing harmful tension, few if any doctors will teach a patient methods of relaxation, but will prescribe tranquilizers and sleeping pills instead.

VICTOR PERRY
Tel Aviv.

SABBATH OBSERVANCE

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, - The Post (September 15) quotes MK Avraham Shapira as saying that he would be "the first to emigrate from Israel if the Shabbat is not observed as it should be," that he would "prefer to live abroad, where (he) can observe the Sabbath, rather than here, where it is violated."

One wonders where he could go to find the Sabbath observed "as it should be." Where, except in Israel, could he and his ilk decide that other people - outside their community of zealots - should be denied access to

public and private transport, to sports facilities, to restaurants and other legal enjoyments that happen to offend a fanatic minority?

And in what country, other than Israel, could this fanatic minority sally out of their fortresses, throw stones and bottles that might maim, blind, even kill their fellow-citizens who thus offend them? Where would they dare to do this?

Find such a place, Mr. Shapira. I would gladly help you look.

MICHAEL ELKINS
Jerusalem.

FOOLISH DECISION

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, - As a new immigrant to Israel of some 18 months' standing, I have seen some rather foolish decisions taken by our so called democratic government, but the decision to create a fund for the education of South African Blacks and Coloureds in Israel (September 17) seems to me to be the limit.

Why create a fund and in so doing actually discriminate against sections of the South African population? What do we in Israel owe to the South African Black and Coloured communities? Are we forgetting that anti-Semitism is so prevalent among these groups under the misguided leadership of people like Bishop Tutu? Let our government rather create funds to improve our own education system which is somewhat lacking in many respects.

As an ex-chairman of the Israel United Appeal (Young Leadership) in South Africa, I feel that it would have been that much more difficult to raise funds from South African Jewry had they then known that some of these funds might be used to educate the very people who seek their extermination.

COLIN WINKLER
Ramatana.

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, - I have no intention of arguing with Mr. Lennox about his impressions of Israeli women, or that of his male friends (Letters, September 4). Looking at this (somewhat superficially) from the outside, one tends to agree.

However, Mr. Lennox's letter gave me a feeling of male chauvinism at work - of someone who needs to lullaby the little woman with a pink moon high up, to keep her attention away from men's shortcomings (to which they are entitled in my opinion, just like everybody else).

I would recommend that this young bachelor look for a woman who has the right mixture of warmth, intelligence and maturity in order to create a partnership for life with her. With this for a start, he will probably be able to teach her all he wants as far as ladylike behaviour

ISRAELI WOMEN

and language are concerned, and even paint the moon pink with her.

HEDI ROSNER
Ramat-Gan.

Sir, - I believe Mr. Lennox of Glasgow has not been meeting the right young ladies. For beauty and brains, there are none like the Yeminites, who are so soft and polite too.

Mr. Lennox should get his friends to introduce some of them to him before he leaves.

HILARY SHORE
Tel Aviv.

Sir, - Mr. Lennox is right. There is something wrong with Israeli women. They are not the romantic type he wishes they were. But why should they be?

Modern Israeli women try to imitate their gentle neighbours, but they fail miserably. They have picked up their sex-appeal (which is

not very hard to do), but they cannot imitate their romanticism, which takes centuries to acquire.

Romantic, fairy-tale love is not in the Jewish tradition. All our love songs are directed to God and, as all the world knows, we are indeed very good at singing His praises.

Modern Israeli women do not have any romantic heroines to pattern themselves on. But genuine Jewish women have real heroines to imitate - Sarah, Rivka, Rachel, Leah, to name a few. These were women of faith, strength and real uncompromising love.

If Mr. Lennox were to meet some of these Israeli women, who are not afraid of being themselves, he would find nothing lacking in them. Of course, unless he is a committed Jew himself, he would not get a date with one of them.

CHANA RUT BAS AVRAHAM
Jerusalem.

TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, - When making aliyah three years ago, my biggest fear was the high accident rate on the Israeli roads. Everyone tried to convince me that it was due to the hot weather, the lousy roads and the tension in this country.

Unfortunately, those are just excuses, as shown by the week in which there were 21 fatalities. It wasn't extremely hot, nor was it vacation week. And in the three years since my arrival, roads have been improved as well.

If people would drive with caution and seat belts (front and rear), the casualty rate would decrease substantially. In the U.S., it is mandatory to belt children and, as a result, the mortality rate has gone down in the last few years.

Here, it seems that all people worry about is war and army. I only pray that all Israeli children survive till age 18. Unfortunately, some never make it.

RIFKA MONDERER
Petah Tikva.

RISKY INVESTMENT

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, - As the Lavi has been compared to America's space programme, I wondered how their respective costs stacked up.

The U.S. spent about \$3 billion a year for eight years (1961-69) to put a man on the moon. During that time, America's annual GNP doubled from \$500 billion to around a trillion dollars.

Estimates of the Lavi's yearly cost run to \$200 million. Israel has a GNP of about \$26 billion, up from some \$20 billion eight years ago.

This admittedly simplistic calculation suggests that Israel must spend something like twice as much, proportionately, to maintain the Lavi, as America, at the height of its global power and prosperity, spent on its space programme.

Under the circumstances, there was scarcely any shame in Israel's decision to forego such a risky investment in "national prestige."

SETH A. HALPERN
Scarsdale, N.Y.

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